

## Save the Date for 2015 Celebration of Nebraska Books

*T*he Celebration of Nebraska Books will be held November 14, 2015, from 2:30 - 6:30 p.m., at the Nebraska Library Commission at 1200 N Street, in downtown Lincoln. This event, free and open to the public, will feature a presentation on the 2015 One Book One Nebraska book selection, honor winners of the 2015 Jane Geske and Nebraska Book Awards, and announce the reading selection for the 2016 One Book One Nebraska.

The 2015 Nebraska Book Awards honor authors and publishers of books with a Nebraska connection published in 2014. Featured winning authors will read from their work and sign copies of their books. The 2015 Jane Geske Award will be presented to a Nebraska organization for exceptional contribution to literacy, books, reading, libraries, or literature in Nebraska.


The Jane Geske Award commemorates Geske's passion for books, and was established in recognition of her contributions to the well-being of the libraries of Nebraska. Jane Pope Geske was a founding member of the Nebraska Center for the Book, former director of the Nebraska Library Commission, and a long-time leader in Nebraska library and literary activities.

This year the Celebration marks the eleventh year of One Book One Nebraska—selecting and

promoting a book for Nebraska citizens to read to celebrate the literary richness of our state. *Death Zones & Darling Spies: Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting* (University of Nebraska Press, 2013) by Beverly Deepe Kever is the 2015 One Book One Nebraska selection. Nebraska libraries and other

literary and cultural organizations across the state are hosting activities and events to encourage all Nebraskans to read and discuss the same book (see <http://onebook.nebraska.gov/2015/index.aspx>).

The Nebraska Center for the Book Annual Meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m.—just prior to the November 14 Celebration of Nebraska Books. An Awards Reception honoring the winning authors, book signings, and announcement of the 2016 One Book

One Nebraska book choice will conclude the festivities. The 2015 Celebration of Nebraska Books is sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Library Commission, and University of Nebraska Press—with Humanities Nebraska supporting the One Book One Nebraska presentation. For more information see <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/programs/celebration.html>. 

*A Celebration of  
Nebraska Books*

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**Nov. 14, 2015  
2:30 - 6:30**

**NEBRASKA  
LIBRARY  
COMMISSION**  
1200 N Street  
Lincoln, NE

**JOIN US TO CELEBRATE:**  
2015 One Book One Nebraska  
*Death Zones & Darling Spies: Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting*  
by Beverly Deepe Kever  
Nebraska Book Award Winners  
2016 One Book One Nebraska Announcement  
Jane Geske Award Presentation  
Reception and Book Signings

More Info:  
[centerforthebook.nebraska.gov](http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov)  
[facebook.com/NebraskaCenterfortheBook](https://facebook.com/NebraskaCenterfortheBook)

# Nebraska Center for the Book Remembers Mike Cartwright

*Guest Editorial by  
Jeanetta Druke,  
University of  
Nebraska-Lincoln*

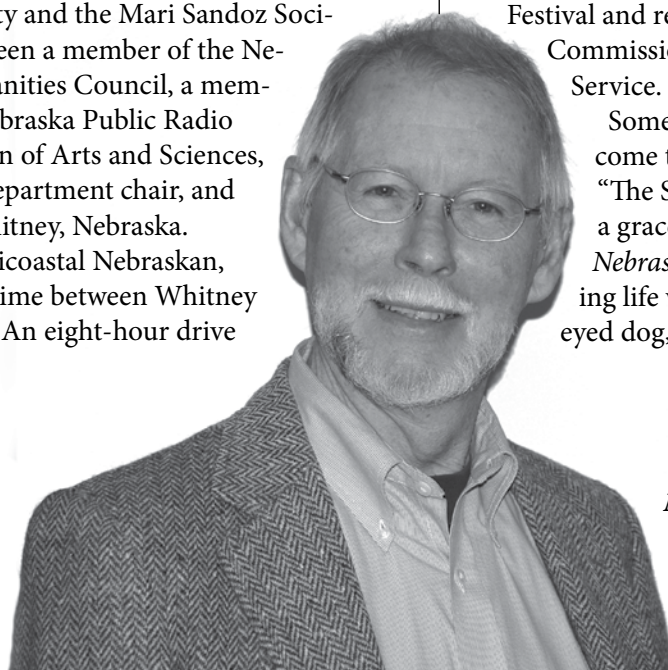
The Nebraska Center for the Book and Nebraska Library Commission were sad to hear that Mike Cartwright died on May 22 at his home in Whitney, NE. We reprint this guest editorial, written by his wife Jeanetta, from the Spring 2006 *NCB News* in memory of Mike.

Mike is an English professor at Chadron State College, a rancher/farmer in the Nebraska Panhandle, and an elected commissioner of the Upper Niobrara White River Natural Resource District. He sits on the board of the Prehistoric Prairie Society and the Mari Sandoz Society. He has been a member of the Nebraska Humanities Council, a member of the Nebraska Public Radio Board, a Dean of Arts and Sciences, an English department chair, and mayor of Whitney, Nebraska.

Mike is a bicoastal Nebraskan, splitting his time between Whitney and Lincoln. An eight-hour drive

across the state is a normal day for Mike. Having found the route with only two stoplights between Lincoln and Whitney, he is now searching for the one with fewer than three stop signs. One day it's 501s, cowboy boots, and his dad's '59 Ford truck. The next it's tweed jackets, suede shoes, and a briefcase. In a given week, he might help a neighbor drive cattle to the Fort Robinson Wood Reserve, teach world literature to undergraduates at Chadron State College, and lounge at the Coffee House in downtown Lincoln. Now, he may also be found directing the Nebraska Book Festival and reading for the Nebraska Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service.

Sometimes, Mike's many interests come together. Recently he published "The Sand Cafe," a short story about a gracefully aging rodeo cowboy, in *Nebraska Life*. Mike shares the traveling life with a reference librarian, a one-eyed dog, and a twenty-year-old cat. 📖



*Mike Cartwright*

*The* **NCB** *News*

Fall 2015 | Volume 25 | No. 2

*This publication is supported in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.*

## **Nebraska Center for the Book Board and Committees**

### **Executive Committee**

Mary Ellen Ducey, President; Lois Todd Meyer, Secretary; Donna Kennedy Marvin, Treasurer

### **Funding/Membership**

Donna Kennedy Marvin; Suzanne Wise

### **Nebraska Book Festival**

Mary Ellen Ducey; Erika Hamilton; Chuck Johanningsmeier

### **Programs/Projects**

Becky Faber; Lois Meyer; Nancy Johnson; Donna Kennedy Marvin; Cathy Mohnike

### **New Members**

Sherry Houston, Julia Kennedy, Scott Abels

### **Publications/Publicity**

Mary Ellen Ducey; Molly Fisher; Chuck Johanningsmeier; Christine Walsh; Mary Jo Ryan (Nebraska Library Commission staff representative)

### **Awards Art Coordinator**

Mary Jo Ryan

### **Letters About Literature Coordinator**

Laureen Riedesel

Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner is an ex-officio member of all committees.

### **2015 Nebraska Center for the Book Annual Meeting**

November 18 . . . 1:30 p.m.,  
Nebraska Library  
Commission

### **Advertising**

The *NCB News* can accept up to four 1/8-page ads for each issue. The advertising rate is \$125 for 1/8-page. *NCB News* is issued March 15, June 15 and October 15. The advertising and copy deadline is six weeks prior to issue date. For details, contact Mary Jo Ryan, Nebraska Center for the Book, The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023; phone 402-471-3434, 800-307-2665, e-mail: [maryjo.ryan@nebraska.gov](mailto:maryjo.ryan@nebraska.gov), [centerforthebook.nebraska.gov](http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov)

The *NCB News* is published three times each year by the Nebraska Center for the Book, The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023.

Subscription is free with membership.

Editor: Mary Jo Ryan

Design and Production: Reynold Peterson

Staff: Tessa Terry

All book cover art and photos reprinted by permission of the publisher.



## Wagner Honored at Book Festival

The Nebraska Center for the Book presented the Mildred Bennett Award to Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner this spring. The award honors Wagner for his many years of service to Nebraska's readers and writers, as an individual who has made a significant contribution to fostering the literary tradition in Nebraska.

The 2015 award is a framed photograph by Steve Ryan entitled, "Woodcliff Lakes, NE.05."


The award is named for Mildred Bennett, the charismatic founder and long-time president of the Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial and Educational Foundation. Bennett could have literally stepped out of a Willa Cather novel. Like some of Cather's heroines, she was a strong, fiercely independent, intelligent woman, who loved the land and planted her roots deeply in the soil of Webster County, Nebraska. During her lifetime, Mildred Bennett was recognized as a foremost authority on Willa Cather by literary organizations and universities across the country. The award is presented annually at the Nebraska Book Festival.



*Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner (l.) received the Mildred Bennett Award from Nebraska Center for the Book President Mary Ellen Ducey.*

This year the twenty-third Nebraska Book Festival was held at the University of Nebraska Omaha's Weitz Community Engagement Center and attended by eighty-two writers, readers, and fans of Nebraska stories. It featured writers' workshops in the morning and author readings/talks in the afternoon. The student/

teacher writing teams of the NeBooks Project presented an iBooks Showcase, featuring iBooks published by Nebraska school teams. Students from Lexington Public Schools shared their experiences with the research, writing, and publishing process. The Bookworm and University of Nebraska Press offered Nebraska-related books for sale throughout the event. The Nebraska

Book Festival was sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, and Nebraska Library Commission, with support from Friends of the University of Nebraska Press and the NeBooks Project. The Nebraska Book Festival will take a hiatus in 2016 to devote a year to gathering input and planning for the next chapter of Nebraska book festivals. 

### What is the Nebraska Center for the Book?

*The Nebraska Center for the Book brings together the state's readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book. We are the people who know and love books, and who value the richness they bring to our lives. Our Nebraska Center supports programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. We have been an affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress since 1990.*

### Join the Nebraska Center for the Book

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name/address of a friend who might be interested in NCB membership: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ \$15 Individual Membership ☐ \$25 Organizational Membership ☐ Additional Contribution

*Contributions above \$15 are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

**Please send this form and a check to: Nebraska Center for the Book  
The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120 • Lincoln, NE 68508-2023**

## One Book One Nebraska Author Comes Home

Beverly Deepe Kever, author of this year's One Book One Nebraska selection *Death Zones & Darling Spies: Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting* (University of Nebraska Press, 2013), returned to her hometown to celebrate her mother's 100th birthday this spring. She spoke in Hebron in March at a program sponsored by Hebron Secrest Library. More than 150 participants attended the presentation and slide show about her experiences as a war correspondent in Vietnam from 1962-1969. She was accompanied by her husband, Chuck, who she met in Vietnam when he was ordered to escort the young reporter as she interviewed Marines in the field. Kever quipped, "Once you give a Marine an order, they really follow through. Oddly enough, although we met half-way around the world, we grew up about 100 miles apart here in the Midwest."

Kever spoke about how she came to be a journalist and shared the fascinating stories behind the stories that she posted from Vietnam to help readers of *Newsweek*, the *New York Herald Tribune*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and other American and European publications make sense of the war. Kever began her education in a country school with only twelve students. When she read *The Good Earth* (Washington Square Press, 2002) by Pearl S. Buck, the dream of visiting China took hold. She went on to get an undergraduate degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in Journalism and Political Science and then to the

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. With two years' worth of savings, she left for Asia, planning to freelance for newspapers along the way. When she arrived in Saigon, there were less than one thousand troops and only eight foreign correspondents, but it was obvious that something was brewing. As the longest-serving Vietnam War correspondent, she posted thousands of articles and memos to try to tell the story of America's combat troops to Americans back home. These notes, articles, postings, and photographs became the book that Nebraskans across the state are reading and talking about throughout this year.

Kever received a Pulitzer Prize nomination for the article she published on the Khe Sanh offensive and was recently inducted into the Marian Andersen Nebraska Women Journalists Hall of Fame. A program on *Death Zones & Darling Spies: Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting* will open the Celebration of Nebraska Books on November 14 in Lincoln. Join us at the Celebration to hear more about this fascinating book and author. AND pick up the book at your local library or bookstore, or order it from University of Nebraska Press at <http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Death-Zones-and-Darling-Spies,675658.aspx>. Keep up with One Book One Nebraska at <http://onebook.nebraska.gov/2015/index.aspx> and <https://www.facebook.com/OneBookOneNebraska>. 



In the exhibit panel on the left, Beverly Deepe Kever is featured in the "Reporting Vietnam" exhibit at the Newseum in Washington, DC. More about the exhibit at <http://www.newseum.org/exhibits/current/reporting-vietnam>

# Young Nebraskans Win Writing Competition



Young Nebraska writers received Letters about Literature award certificates from Gov. Pete Ricketts on April 8 at a proclamation-signing ceremony celebrating National Library Week, April 12-18, 2015. Letters about Literature is a national reading and writing promotion program. Nearly 50,000 adolescent and young readers nationwide in grades four through twelve participated in this year's Letters about Literature program, hundreds of them from Nebraska. The competition encourages young people to read, be inspired, and write back to the author (living or dead) who had an impact on their lives.

This annual contest is sponsored nationally by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The Center for the Book was established in 1977 as a public-private partnership to use the resources of the Library of Congress to stimulate public interest in books and reading. The Nebraska competition is coordinated and sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book and Nebraska Library Commission, with support from Houchen Bindery Ltd. and Chapters Bookstore.

Young Nebraska writers honored were:

## WINNERS

**Emma Harner**, Lincoln,  
for a letter to Karen Hesse

**Owen Morrow**, Omaha,  
for a letter to Mike Lupica

**Ashley Xiques**, Omaha,  
for a letter to Leigh Bardugo

## ALTERNATE WINNERS


**Grace Gutierrez**, Omaha,  
for a letter to Deborah Wiles

**Clio Reid**, Lincoln,  
for a letter to Lewis Carroll

**Morgan Curran**, Arapahoe,  
for a letter to Beatrice Sparks

The students wrote personal letters to authors explaining how his or her work changed their view of themselves or the world. They selected authors from any genre, fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic. Winners were chosen from three competition levels: upper elementary, middle, and secondary school.

The Nebraska winners were also honored at a luncheon and received cash prizes and gift certificates. Their winning letters were placed in the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln. Winners advanced to the national competition, with a chance to win a trip to Washington, D.C. for themselves and their parents.

The 2015/2016 Letters about Literature competition is now open. Students are encouraged to begin writing their letters to authors now. The deadline is Dec. 4, 2015, for Level 3 (readers in grades nine to twelve) and Jan. 11, 2016, for Level 1 and Level 2 (readers in grades four to eight). For more information see <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/programs/LAL.html>. 

*Letters about Literature award winners at the April 8, 2015, proclamation-signing ceremony: (l-r) Clio Reid, Lincoln; Emma Harner, Lincoln; Ashley Xiques, Omaha; Gov. Pete Ricketts; Owen Morrow, Omaha; Morgan Curran, Arapahoe; Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner; Grace Gutierrez, Omaha, and Nebraska Center for the Book Board Member Charles Johanningsmeier.*



## American Life in Poetry: Column 531



by Ted Kooser,  
U.S. Poet Laureate,  
2004-2006


Many of the poems that have survived the longest are very short. Some of them are a couple of thousand years old. They have somehow managed to perfectly catch life in just a few words and we can still feel those long-ago lives within them. Glenna Luschei, who lives in California, tells us a great deal about comfort in this exemplary poem. Her latest book of poetry is *Leaving It All Behind*, (Presa Press, 2011).

### Home

Dog at my pillow.

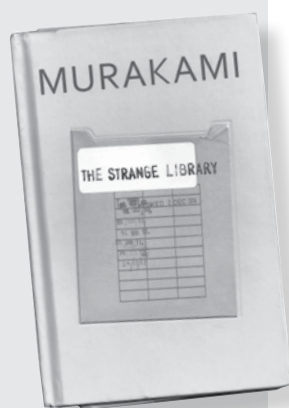
Dog at my feet.

My own toothbrush.

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation ([www.poetryfoundation.org](http://www.poetryfoundation.org)), publisher of *Poetry* magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright © 2014 by Glenna Luschei, "Home." Poem reprinted by permission of Glenna Luschei. Introduction copyright © 2015 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts. 

## Haruki Murakami Invades the Subconscious


by Oliver B. Pollak,  
Omaha



"Kino," a story in the *New Yorker* (February 23, 2015) introduced me to the art of Haruki Murakami. The intriguing, unexpected, and inconclusive ending still satisfies. "Kino" turned me to Murakami's 2008 novella *The Strange Library* published in English in 2014. The English and American covers and illustrations are dramatically different. London's hardback (Harvill Secker, 2014) has a fetching Demco, Gaylord, or Brodart-style book check-out envelope on the cover and marbled paper which appealed to my waning "anecdotal bibliophilia." The English hardback, designed by Suzanne Dean was printed and bound in Italy. Chip Kidd designed the American edition, as he has done since 1993.

*Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage* (Knopf, 2014) has stunning,


verging on three dimensional, integrated jacket and boards designed by Chip Kidd. The English edition is not "colourless," though some English reviews use that spelling. At about the same time I watched *Departures* on Netflix, a 2008 Japanese film, recipient of the 2009 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. I enjoyed several days of amazing contemporary Japanese fiction and film.

In the wake of this pleasure *Time* magazine (April 27, 2015) identified Murakami san in a Yoko Ono essay as one of "The 100 most influential people." The *New York Times Book Review* (May 17, 2015) suggested the Nobel Prize for Literature. I promoted Doris Lessing for the Nobel starting in 1975, she got it in 2007. Now I root for the Nobility of Murakami who makes dreams into a fabulist and creepy reality. 

## One Book One Nebraska Selection Now Available for Talking Book Borrowers

Free Books and Magazines on Digital Cartridge!

The Nebraska Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service provides talking books, through digital download and in Braille,

to individuals with a visual or physical condition or a reading disability which limits use of regular print. The 2015 One Book One Nebraska selection is now available to check out. For more information see <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/TBBS>. 



## What Are You Reading?

Nebraska Center for the Book board members share their thoughts about the books they are reading.

I am reading *The Oxford Project* (Welcome Books, 2010), photographs by Peter Feldstein, text by Stephen G. Bloom. In 1984 Feldstein initiated a project to photograph every resident of Oxford, IA, a small town near Iowa City. Twenty years later he photographed as many of the previous residents as possible, encouraging them to talk about their lives over the previous twenty years. The result shows both sets of photos with engaging text.

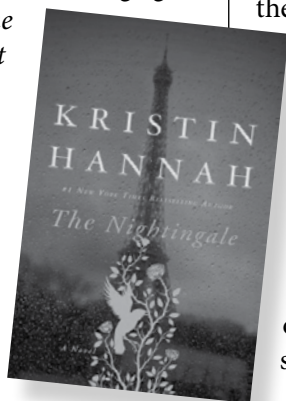
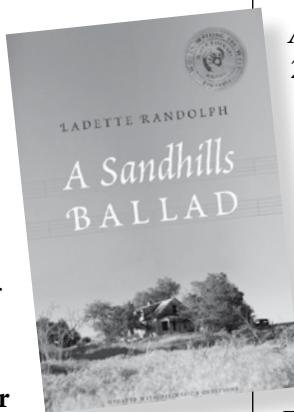
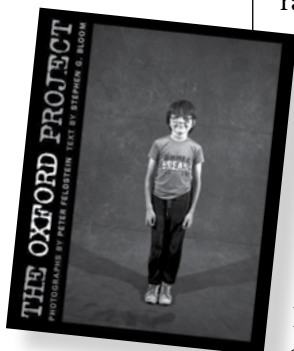
**Rebecca Faber**

Ladette Randolph's novel *A Sandhills Ballad* (University of Nebraska Press Bison Books, 2011) features a strong young woman, Mary, who grows to maturity. She encounters death—her first husband and her child—and makes some really bad decisions in her second marriage. But her strength is her will and independent nature. Overcoming all the odds, at the end, she radiates with her love for family and the land, and her personal success.

**Molly Fisher**

I am reading *Nightingale* (St. Martin's Press, 2015) by Kristin Hannah—good story about France during World War II. Not that long ago I read *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* by Daniel James Brown—about the 1936 Olympic Crew team. The author did tons of research. I highly recommend this well-written book.

**Sherry Houston**



Inspired by the recent positive reviews of Marilynne Robinson's latest, *Lila: A Novel* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2014), I recently read her award-winning 1980 novel, *Housekeeping* (Picador, 2004). It starts out rather slowly (but intriguingly) as the narrator, Ruth, gradually reveals how she and her sister Lucille ended up in a town called Fingerbone, raised by various relatives instead of her parents. As I read on, I became more invested in Ruth's story but was especially interested in her Aunt Sylvie, a very eccentric woman who comes to "keep house" with Ruth and Lucille. Since I am an avid reader of regionalist fiction, I found this minimalist slice of small-town life and family drama interesting but not earth-shattering. This still won't keep me from seeking out one of Robinson's other novels, possibly *Gilead* (Picador, 2006) or *Lila*.

**Chuck Johanningsmeier**

I just finished reading: *Kitchen Confidential: Adventures in the Culinary Underbelly* (Ecco, 2007) by Anthony Bourdain. This book is a fascinating, revealing look at what happens behind the kitchen doors in the higher-end restaurant business. I found it particularly interesting because I know a young man who is a sous chef at a Washington DC bistro. Reading this put his work in a whole new light.

**Lois Meyer**

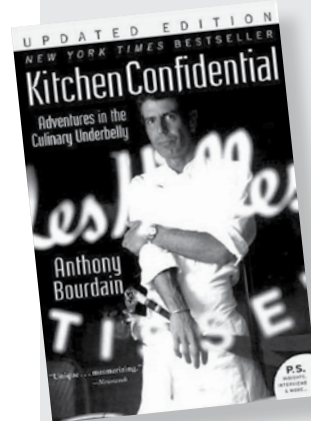
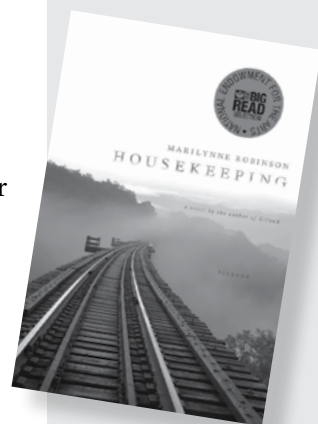
National Book Award Finalist, *Station Eleven* (Vintage, 2015), by Emily St. John Mandel tells the disturbing story of a future world in which the population has been decimated by a flu pandemic. The novel forces the reader to consider the tenuous position

humans have on earth and our scary inability to function without modern fuels and inventions. Once I started reading I could not put it down.

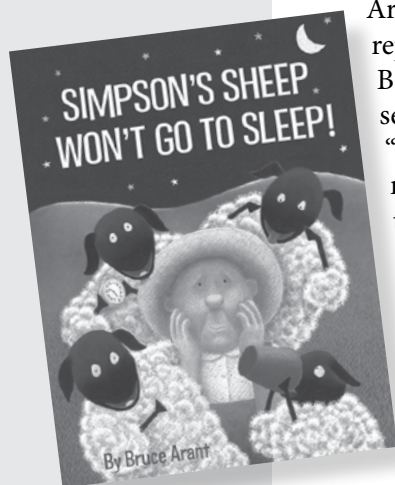
**Cathy Mohnike**

I'm reading Jo Nesbo's *The Redbreast* (Harper, 2011) #3 of 10 in Nesbo's Harry Hole crime fiction series. I've gotten hooked on this Norwegian writer and this particular series.

**Rod Wagner**




## Simpson's Sheep Won't Go to Sleep! Represents Nebraska



The Nebraska Center for the Book selected *Simpson's Sheep Won't Go to Sleep!* by Bruce Arant (Peter Pauper Press, Inc., 2013) to represent Nebraska at the 2015 National Book Festival. The book is the state's selection for the National Book Festival's "Discover Great Places through Reading" map. Each state selects one book about the state, or by an author from the state, that is a good read for children or young adults. The map was distributed at the Festival on September 5 and listed in "Great Reads about Great Places" on the websites of both the National and Nebraska Centers for the Book.

Will poor Farmer Simpson ever find a way to lull his sheep to sleep? Illustrated with soft pastel drawings, *Simpson's Sheep Won't Go to Sleep!* is a story for every parent or grand-

parent who has put a child to bed—and every child who has creatively resisted. The selection was awarded the 2014 Nebraska Book Award in the Children's category and the Design/Cover/Illustration category. (NOTE: Winners of the 2015 Nebraska Book Awards will be announced at the November 14 Celebration of Nebraska Books—see <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/programs/celebration.html> for Celebration details.)

The National Book Festival featured award-winning authors, poets, and illustrators at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC. Festival goers met their favorite authors, got books signed, had photos taken with mascots and storybook characters, and participated in a variety of learning activities. State centers for the book staffed exhibit booths to promote reading, library programs, and literary events. See <http://www.loc.gov/bookfest/> for more information. 


## Write a Novel in November

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is celebrating its seventeenth year of empowering diverse voices, supporting writers in the classroom, and building creative writing communities around the world. NaNoWriMo challenges people to write 50,000 words of a novel in the 30 days of November.

Valuing enthusiasm, determination, and a deadline, NaNoWriMo is for *anyone* who has



ever thought fleetingly about writing a novel. Experience since 1999 shows that 50,000 words is a difficult but doable goal, even for people with full-time jobs and families. The length makes it a short novel—about the length of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* (Scribner, 2004). Sign up at any time,


year-round by clicking on the "Sign Up" button at <http://nanowrimo.org>. Then start writing at the stroke of midnight on November 1. 

## Plum Creek Festival Set for October 1-3



The 20th Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival will be held October 1-3, with the Adult Conference on Saturday, October 3, 2015. Teachers, administrators, librarians, and book lovers are invited to Concordia University's campus in Seward to hear visiting authors and illustrators, as well as other literacy experts.

Richard Peck will be the Author Luncheon speaker, presenting on the power of story in a

digital age, "The Ringing Phone at the Back of the Room." A special exhibit, *The Art of Eric Carle: Feathers, Fins and Fur*, will be displayed in the Marxhausen Gallery on Concordia University's campus. See [www.cune.edu/plumcreek](http://www.cune.edu/plumcreek) for the schedule, registration information, and a complete list of featured authors and illustrators. Or contact Dylan Teut, [plumcreek@cune.edu](mailto:plumcreek@cune.edu), 800-535-5494, ext. 7483. 

## More New Teen Books

A new development in the summer reading program at the Millard Branch of the Omaha Public Library was the leadership provided by teenagers at the summer reading program desk. These teens have been largely staffing the desk, using their laptop computers to sign up everyone from preschoolers to older adults. As a result, many more teens have signed up for volunteer hours. I think they are thrilled with this opportunity and they are making the most of it. The rest of the staff have remarked that the teens have helped to take the pressure off the staff at a very busy branch. These teens take initiative, are intelligent, and, I think are enjoying their volunteer experience this summer.

*Stella by Starlight* by Sharon M. Draper (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2015). Stella discovers prejudice in a small town in many ways, including going with her father as he tries to register to vote.

*Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard (HarperTeen, 2015). Mare steals to

make a living, but her life is changed forever in a chance encounter with a silver prince and she ultimately discovers that she possesses supernatural powers.

*The Winner's Crime* by Marie Rutkoski

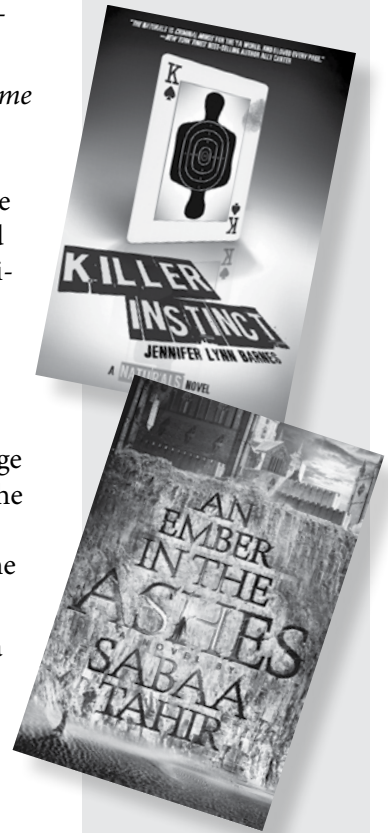
(Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2015). Kestrel loves Arin, but now he thinks that she has betrayed him and the king suspects that Kestrel is a traitor. Book 2 of the Winner's Trilogy.

*Killer Instinct* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes (Disney-Hyperion, 2014). Cassie and her team, the Naturals, investigate a murder at a local college campus that shows similarities to the crimes committed by Dean's father who is now in prison. Book 2 of the Naturals.

*An Ember in the Ashes* by Sabaa Tahir (Razorbill, 2015). Laia meets Elias at the Blackcliff Military Academy and they discover they desperately want their freedom. 📖



by Paul Christopherson,  
Omaha Public Library



## Sandoz Exhibit Available

A portable display featuring photos of Mari Sandoz and her Great Plains landscape, with text about the author (her books and her history) and quotes from her writing, is now available on loan to Nebraska libraries and other cultural organizations. The traveling exhibit reflects the image and spirit of the author and her work. It was developed by the Mari Sandoz Heritage Society, with funding from Humanities Nebraska, to help spread the word about Mari Sandoz—the Sandhills author and teacher who had an impact on America's understanding of the West.

For more information see [http://www.marisandoz.org/events\\_activities/travelingexhibit.html](http://www.marisandoz.org/events_activities/travelingexhibit.html). To reserve the display, contact Elizabeth Chase, [echase@windstream.net](mailto:echase@windstream.net), 402-499-3703, or J.L. Schmidt, [jlschmidt67@gmail.com](mailto:jlschmidt67@gmail.com). 📖



The Mari Sandoz traveling exhibit is visiting libraries across Nebraska.



# The NCB News



THE NEBRASKA  
CENTER FOR  
THE BOOK

an affiliate of  
the Library of Congress

c/o Nebraska Library Commission  
The Atrium  
1200 N Street, Suite 120  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-2023  
34-00-12

NONPROFIT  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 988  
Lincoln, NE

## Celebration of Nebraska Books, November 14, 2015

<http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/programs/celebration.html>

CURRENT RESIDENT OR:

## Calendar of Events:



View the complete  
Nebraska Literary  
Calendar at  
[centerforthebook.  
nebraska.gov/  
get\\_involved/calendar.  
html](http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/get_involved/calendar.html)

**Banned Books Week 2015** ..... September 27-October 3..... Nationwide  
Contact: [www.ala.org/bbooks/](http://www.ala.org/bbooks/)

**Governor's Lecture in the Humanities:** David Reynolds..... October 1 ..... Omaha  
Contact: <http://humanitiesnebraska.org/program/governors-lecture/>

**Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival** ..... October 1-3..... Seward  
Contact: [PlumCreek@cune.edu](mailto:PlumCreek@cune.edu), 402-643-7483,  
[www.cune.edu/about/conferences-and-camps/plumcreek](http://www.cune.edu/about/conferences-and-camps/plumcreek)

**Nebraska Writers Guild Fall Conference**..... October 2-3..... Aurora  
Contact: <http://www.nebraskawriters.org/content/fall-conference>

**Nebraska Library Association/  
Nebraska School Librarians Association Conference** ..... October 14-16 ..... Lincoln  
Contact: [http://nebraskalibraries.site-ym.com/events/event\\_details.asp?id=580264&group=](http://nebraskalibraries.site-ym.com/events/event_details.asp?id=580264&group=),  
[NLAexecutivedirector@gmail.com](mailto:NLAexecutivedirector@gmail.com)

**Teen Read Week: Turn Dreams into Reality** ..... October 18-24 ..... Nationwide  
Contact: <http://teenreadweek.ning.com>

**Paul A. Olson Seminars in Great Plains Studies:** Elizabeth Fenn ..... October 28 ..... Lincoln  
Contact: 402-472-3964, [cgps@unl.edu](mailto:cgps@unl.edu),  
[www.unl.edu/plains/great-plains-great-ideas-paul-olson-seminars](http://www.unl.edu/plains/great-plains-great-ideas-paul-olson-seminars)

**AnimeNebrasKon** ..... November 6-8..... Omaha  
Contact: [register@animenebraskon.com](mailto:register@animenebraskon.com), [www.animenebraskon.com](http://www.animenebraskon.com)

**Sixteenth Annual Laureate's Feast** ..... November 8 ..... Omaha  
Contact: 402-648-3388, 888-777-4667, [neihardt@gpcom.net](mailto:neihardt@gpcom.net), [www.neihardtcenter.org/Events.html](http://www.neihardtcenter.org/Events.html)

**NE Center for the Book's Celebration of Nebraska Books** ..... November 14 ..... Lincoln  
Annual Meeting at 1:30 p.m.  
Contact: Mary Jo Ryan, [maryjo.ryan@nebraska.gov](mailto:maryjo.ryan@nebraska.gov), 402-471-3434, 800-307-2665,  
<http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov>, [www.facebook.com/NebraskaCenterfortheBook](https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaCenterfortheBook)